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## **High School 3D Printing Competition Announced at Vermont Tech Jam**

### **Students Will Use Cutting Edge Technology to Bring Vermont History to Life**

**BARRE** - The Preservation Trust of Vermont, Google, Hartford High School and the State of Vermont have partnered to put on the first *Vermont High School Town History in 3D* competition. The competition was announced on October 24, the first day of the Vermont Tech Jam.

The competition will challenge high school students to create 3D models of historic Vermont buildings using SketchUp 3D modeling software. Students will research the history of the buildings and develop multimedia presentations to accompany their models. The models will be imbedded in Google Earth, which will allow them to be viewed in their geographic context online.

The competition will culminate in an event in spring 2015 where models and presentations will be judged based on architectural and historical accuracy.

"Town History in 3D utilizes cutting edge technology and the internet to enable students to explore the history of their communities," said Matt Dunne, Head of Community Affairs at Google. "It's a new approach to education and historic preservation that connects technology with Vermont history."

Hartford High School teacher Mike Hathorn uses SketchUp and 3D printing to teach his history class.

"3D printing has been a critical tool in the classroom," said Hathorn. "It's a hands-on method for teaching history to a technologically minded generation. It's mentally and technically challenging, and above all it's fun."

At the spring event, the completed 3D models will be displayed in their geographic locations on a giant map of Vermont.

"Town History in 3D is a great competition that intersects students with the world of historic preservation," said Paul Bruhn, Executive Director of The Preservation Trust of Vermont. "Every community in Vermont is rich in architectural history. This competition helps illuminate these histories."

Preserving historic buildings in Vermont communities is a top priority for the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, says “The Agency of Education is very pleased to be a part of the group supporting this competition. This kind of learning is the kind that truly engages learning from a project-based format. The connection to community gives an even bigger impact, and shows both students and communities the power of technology to engage students in preservation of our Vermont architectural treasures.”

Town History in 3D will provide SketchUp training for teachers and will provide 3D printers for the competition. Information and online registration for the competition can be found at <http://3dvermont.org/>.

Town History in 3D Partners:

The Preservation Trust of Vermont

Google

Vermont Office of the Creative Economy

Vermont Agency of Education

Hartford High School

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, Department of Housing and Community Development

Vermont Tech Jam

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